

# Connecticut Marksman

The Oldest Continuously  
Published State Association Newsletter

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SPRING 2008

## The 77th Annual CSRRA Gallery Match

Article by Hap Rocketto

Since 1931 the Connecticut Gallery Match has been fired at the Hartford Armory, New Haven's Goff Street Armory, the Winchester Club House, Remington's Lordship Point facility, the Niantic Sportsmen's Club, and Blue Trail Range. The first of the few perfect scores ever fired in this tournament was fired at Blue Trail by New York's Fred Cole, shooting for Roslyn, and the latest was this year by one of Connecticut's premier rifleman, Jeff Doerschler.



Jeff Doerschler, Match Winner

Doerschler's perfect performance anchored The Knights of the Ten Ring as it topped the senior category with a 786-57. Supporting Doerschler were Chris Kemp, Ryan Castonguay, and Mike Burzynski. Middlefield Gold was a close second with a 784-48 put up by Len Remaly, Ryan Lavoie, Jacob Costa, and Jim Cooke. The Middlefield quartet clearly knows the meaning of the old shooting axiom "You win matches standing and lose them prone." Three points lost on their bellies cost them the match to a team that only lost seven points standing to their 12.

The third place team, representing the Quaker Hill and Rod Gun Club, was built around Hap Rocketto, Jenn Sloan, Kent Lacey, and Lisette Grunwell and they turned in a 777-43, just eight center shots ahead of Middlefield Silver's Bryan Cross, Dave Lyman, Debbie Lyman, and Greg Lonczak. Middlefield took the last of the top five places with Stephanie Petrescu, Matt Buechele, Jason Chowanec, and Remington Lyman carding a 769-41.

Individual competition saw Dave Lyman slide in behind Doerschler with a 199-14, Kemp had a 198-17 for third while Grunwell's 198-17 earned her high

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## Letter from the President

by Randy Bieler, CSRRA President

First I want to apologize for not publishing a Marksman for quite awhile. We are a group of volunteers but we are not literary scholars or great reporters. I have asked Hap Rocketto and Patti Clark to help me put together this edition. I am also working to improve our website to make it more up to date and user friendly. I could also use your help, please send me any information, articles, and/or pictures from your clubs that we might be able to include in our next edition to CSRRA, P.O. Box 754 North Haven, CT 06473

This past year many of our Connecticut shooters won championships and matches at Camp Perry as well as other places to give our state and its exceptional shooting program national recognition. I am proud to say that I was there when Kris Friend of Cheshire had won the Presidents 100 match, a match where all the best shooters in the nation civilian and service alike compete. The first NRA sponsored M1A match was won by Ryan Castonguay of New Hartford and his shooting jacket was even donated to the NRA Museum. For the last few years both the NRA and CMP have asked me how Connecticut is able to take up so many spaces on the stage at the awards ceremonies during all phases. I answer that we maybe a small state but our shooting program is great because of the dedication and hard work of the shooters, support personnel, and parents. We all should be proud when our Connecticut shooters take the stage, I am.

The CSRRA wants to be there to support all our state's shooting organizations' activities to keep firearms enjoyment alive in Connecticut. As president I ask, "What can we do for you?" As I stated earlier we are a few volunteers but we want to support you and shooting sports. Please send me any ideas to our PO Box or call me at 203-272-1725 if you think that you could use any help from us.

I am looking forward to another great year and wish the best for you and our shooting aspirations.



## CSRRA Smallbore Rifle Team Requirements for Camp Perry

Wallace Lyman, Junior Director, has announced the intent to select and enter one 4 man junior team for position; one junior 4 man prone team and one 4 man sub-junior prone team at camp Perry this summer. Each team will have one alternate.

Qualifications include that all team members selected must be an individual member of the CSRRA and residents of the state of Connecticut.

Selection will be based upon the following schedule of CSRRA qualifying matches, with at least one score coming from a CSRRA event; May 4, President's Match (1600), May 31 and June 1, Position Regional (2400), and June 14 & 15 Prone Regional (3200)

Other events available but not limited to; April 26, Quaker Hill, 3 Position (1200) Contact Jennifer Sloan, jennslo@msn.com or Steve Rocketto, srocketto@aquilasys.com for a program. Also, on May 11, the Blue Trail Range is sponsoring the John K Lee 1600, contact David Lyman at 203-269-3280. Leagues at the Blue Trail and Bell City will be considered as long as cumulative totals equal the requirements. Leagues will not be weighted as heavily as NRA registered matches.

### 1. Requirements:

- a. Position Teams must submit 2 scores from a 1200 Aggregate.
- b. Prone Teams must submit 3 1600 Aggregate scores.

Note: If matches are not CSRRA matches, the match results must be submitted with the score.

2. Team selection will be made by the end of June. Interested Juniors and Sub-juniors should notify Wallace Lyman at jelyman@mac.com or 203-269-8931 as soon as you know you want to participate in the program.

The CSRRA will sponsor each team member and alternate by paying their entry fee, team fee and housing cost equal to staying in the huts.

All coaches will be announced during the summer.

## Support the Friends of the NRA

Friends of NRA is an exciting grassroots fund-raising program that fosters community involvement, raises money and gives 100% of the net proceeds to qualified local, state and national programs. Thanks to dedicated individuals across America, Friends of NRA is making a difference. Working with NRA's Field Staff, thousands of volunteers nationwide are participating in the program by organizing committees and planning events in their communities.

The format is simple-food, fun, family and fund-raising. Whether you are a hunter, competitive shooter or just a proud gun owner, Friends of NRA events have something of interest for the entire family. Events include dinner followed by exciting auctions and special drawings for unique and collectible merchandise. Attendees bid on items from the standard Friends of NRA merchandise package, as well as special products and services donated to specific events by local businesses and community members. "Friends of NRA merchandise includes very desirable limited edition firearms, wildlife art from popular artists, jewelry, and shooting sports, hunting and outdoor equipment. Events offer every participant an opportunity to take home valuable merchandise and enjoyable memories," said Rich D'Alauro, NRA Senior Field Representative for lower New York, upper New Jersey, Connecticut and Rhode Island.

Support the NRA Foundation by attending one or more of the following Connecticut Friends of the NRA Dinner events:

- ▶ **May 8-6PM in Groton at the Groton Motor Inn**  
Contact Steve Rocketto at 860-848-9578 or srocketto@aquilasys.com
- ▶ **May 22-6PM in Danbury at Anthony's Lake Club**  
Contact Craig Nelson at 860-868-0501 or newpreston@hotmail.com
- ▶ **June 6-6PM in Wallingford at Zandri's Stillwood Inn**  
Contact Ralph Bartoli at 203-901-4388 or RalphBartoli@comcast.net
- ▶ **Sept 19-6PM in at Torrington at Cornucopia**  
Contact Mona Starczewski at 860-836-0000 or monafelice@yahoo.com
- ▶ **Sept 26-6PM in Bolton at Georgina's**  
Contact Jeff Rogala at 860-872-7834 or jeffsurfstream@cs.com

## Connecticut Native Janet Tomsyn Raab Joins NRA's Competitive Shooting Division

Janet Tomsyn Raab started High Power Rifle shooting in 1986 and became Distinguished with the M14 rifle in 1987. She is the first and only women High Power Rifle competitor to win the coveted Nathan Hale Trophy as High Civilian in the National Trophy Individual match at Camp Perry. Ms. Raab's credentials in High Power Rifle shooting are impeccable having set National Match Course and Long Range National Records and winning many National High Power trophies. Her latest shooting accomplishment is setting a new world record in the Women's 300 Meter Prone Team event in 2006 and earning the U.S. International Shooters' Distinguished Badge.

Ms. Raab holds one of only three Class "A" ISSF Coaches ratings in the

United States, as well as, a Level 3 Advanced Certified Rifle Coach rating with the National Rifle Association. Her educational background consists of a B.S. degree in Engineering, Masters degree in Business Administration and a second Masters degree from George Washington University.

"Janet Tomsyn Raab brings a very high level of education and shooting experience to the NRA's Competitive Shooting Division and we are very proud to have her fill the new position of National Manager - High Power Rifle Programs," stated Mike Krei, Director of NRA's Competitive Shooting Division.

Ms. Raab can be reached by calling 703-267-1479 or by email at jraab@nrahq.org.

## Indoor League Roundup

Three of Connecticut's four indoor rifle leagues have closed out the 2007-2008 campaigns. The Charter Oak, Nutmeg, and Mohegan Rifle League scorers have totaled up all of the result and announced the various league championships.

The Nutmeg League fires a 30 shot three position course of fire on the A-36 target. Jeff Doerschler emerged the champion with an average of 283.7. Junior Jacob Costa led his category while Melissa Lussier was both High Lady and iron sight shooter. Len Remaly was high senior with Claudia Duksa and Debbie Lyman right behind as first and second expert. Dennis McMullen and Bryan Cross were first and second respectively in the sharpshooter class. Steve Hogan was the top intermediate senior.

The marksman's class was headed by veteran Paul Fecteau and close on his heels was junior Matt Buechele. Third and fourth marksmen were Chris Zibbideo and Larry Wright. The most improved shooter was Ryan Overturf.

In A team competition the standings were Middlefield and Bell City with a record of 9-1, Middletown 6-4, Middlebury 3-7, Metacon 2-8, and 2nd Company Governor's Foot Guard 1-9. The B team standing were Middlefield 10-0, Middletown and Bell City 7-3, Metacon and Middlebury 2-8, and 2nd Company Governor's Foot Guard 1-8.

On the eastern side of the state the Mohegan Rifle League shoots a 25 shot match, five shots prone, sitting, kneeling, and ten shots standing. Hap Rocketto was League Champion with an average of 244.3 while Lisette Grunwell's 243.1 placed second, just ahead of third place Kent Lacy's 242.2. First in Class A was Jenn Sloan followed by Ernie Mellor and Dave Jensen. Class B award winners were Dave Blanchette, Pete Welles, and Scott Alexander. Class C saw Pete Puhlick, Chucj Griffin, and Tim Plourde to the class. High Senior was Steve Rocketto with Kevin Roe topping all juniors.

In team competition the Magnums of Quaker Hill went undefeated, 16-0,

Quaker Hill Rod and Gun Club was second with a record of 10-6, Pachaug 8-8, Killingly 8-8, and Mystic 0-16.

Back in the middle of the state the Charter Oak League fires the traditional 20 shot match and Rich Duksa narrowly edged our Doerschler on the strength of his standing with an average of 199.25 to Doerschler's 199.00. Lussier was again high expert and high woman. Claudia Duksa was the best junior and Ron Sekellick bested all seniors. Hogan repeated as intermediate senior.

The best sharpshooters were Sharon Sekellick and Pete Jenkin. Ed Haury and Jim Memery were the leaders on the marksman class while Scott Dowling was the most improved.

In team competition Bell City was 8-0 in Team A standings with Middletown at 6-2, Middlebury 3-5, 2nd Company Governor's Foot Guard 2-6, and Metacon 0-8. B class competition saw Middletown on top with a 7-1 record, Bell City was next with 6-2, Metacon 3-4, 2nd Company Governor's Foot Guard 1-5, and Middlebury had a 1-6 record.

The Southwestern Postal League runs through the end of March and results are not yet available.

## RENEWING YOUR PISTOL PERMIT?

The Dept. of Public Safety 1) accepts checks or money orders only for the \$35 renewal fee; and 2) requires that you produce proof of citizenship when you appear to renew. This can be a birth certificate, voter registration card, U.S. Passport or Naturalization papers. Legal Alien Residents must provide Alien Registration Number and 90-day Proof of Residency form. Further information may be obtained at the website: [www.ct.gov/dps](http://www.ct.gov/dps) by selecting the 'State Pistol Permit' box in the left column, and then clicking on 'Pistol Permit Renewal' in the body of the text.

## NRA President Makes Team Appointments



Ian Cheeseaman

The National Rifle Association President John Sigler has made two major team official appointments concerning Connecticut shooting personalities.

Quaker Hill member Ian Cheeseaman has been appointed to the post of Adjutant of the 2011 United States Palma Team. The Palma Match is the world's premier long range center fire rifle match. The Palma Trophy Match is contested every four years and is shot in three stages of slow fire in the prone position. The first stage is two sighting shots and 15 shots for record per shooter at 800 yards. The second stage is two sighters and 15 shots for record at 900 yards per shooter. The third stage is two sighters and 15 shots for record at 1000 yards per shooter. Each national team consists of 16 shooters.

Likewise another Quaker Hill member, Hap Rocketto, is to be the coach of the US Drew Cup Team which will fire its match during the NRA National Smallbore Rifle Championships this July at Camp Perry, Ohio. Drew Cup members are juniors selected from the prone stages of the National Three position Championships to shoot and international postal over the English Course.

## YOUR NRA *By Patti Clark, NRA Board member, Newtown, CT*

You may be wondering what actually goes on at NRA that really affects you, the NRA member in the state of Connecticut. For the Competitive shooter there are lots of things! We can start with the General Operations Division led by Kayne Robinson. This division houses four of our most used assets, the Departments of Education and Training, Clubs and Associations, and Competitive Shooting, and Youth Programs. Each of these divisions provide a myriad of services from teaching instructor courses, to certifying events and running Camp Perry, to helping new clubs get started, and granting Achievement Awards for our very best and well rounded youngsters.

In the Legislative arena, ILA is our watchdog for legislation, which affects our right to own and use our guns. ILA also rates candidates on our issues and with more and more difficulty, helps us to get to know those candidates better.

In order to understand the whole scope of services that NRA offers and things that you as a member should be taking advantage of, I would like to direct you to [www.NRA.org](http://www.NRA.org). This amazing website is a great resource to find out just what NRA does or can do for you. When you open the site, you will be directed to click on the portal that takes you into the links for your favorite activity and gives you the chance to explore others.

Some things of interest are the ability to click a link to donate a membership for a member of the military. Who better to join our organization than those that defend us and realize the importance of their gun and the training they need to use those guns? Many leave the service without ever knowing that their interest can continue through NRA programs. Let's give them a chance.

How about information on the NRA Annual Members meeting in Louisville, Kentucky? This is a pretty good way to spend part of your vacation time and it is within driving distance. The link leads you to registration for the phenomenal exhibit hall. Members get to participate in the NRA meeting, vote for the 76th Director from the floor, listen to the powerful oration of our Executive Vice President Wayne LaPierre, and attend the Members Dinner on Saturday night. There are seminars on hunting, grassroots legislation, a clubs and association workshop, and lots of other learning experiences. The dates are May 16-20 and the site even provides suggestions for places to stay. Get a bus going from your club!

How about local events? They are on the website as well. Look under woman's programs. Did you know that Metacon is hosting a Woman on Target Event on June 28th? This event has drawn over 60 women and girls in the past who are taught basic safety and then get to experience a variety of firearms. It is open to the general public. So let your friends know. The contact is June

Shew at 860-653-6330. She would also love some lady instructors to help on the range.

Last from me is the members discount link on the website. If you are a bargain hunter this is the link for you. Gear, guns, hearing protection, are among the discounts offered by manufacturers to NRA members. Check it out!



## Caruso to Compete in China For Olympic Gold

Emily Caruso, a former Stratford PAL junior, has yet again earned a berth on the US Olympic Shooting Team. The 30 year old air rifle specialist, veteran of the Athens Games, will travel to China in search of Olympic gold. Just two inches over five feet the Norwich University graduate was an All American at the Vermont College, just as was fellow Nutmeg rifleman and Norwich Alumni Wally Lyman.



**Emily Caruso**

Caruso began shooting on a whim when she attended a PAL practice session with her older sister Jamie. Since then the sport has become engrained in her lifestyle. A resident athlete at the Olympic Training center she trains five days a week for up to five hours, and also runs and lifts in a physical training program. She said she never plans on quitting shooting and hopes to be involved in the sport at some level for as long as possible, whether competing or coaching.

The petite native of Fairfield often surprises many when they find out she is a shooter. Caruso says that when she picks up her gun at special security checkpoints at the airport, the security workers are often in disbelief and tell her she is the last person they expect to be involved in the shooting sports.

Caruso, a vegetarian who has been seen eating animal crackers, is a member of the CSRRRA Hall Of Fame and will head to the Far East with the best wishes of her many Connecticut friends.

### ***WWW.CSRRRA.COM***

The Association website will be undergoing a major renovation in the near future. There are still active areas such as the current gallery results but it will soon become a window on the entire spectrum of Association's activities, benefits, and plans.

Just like the Marksman, your continuing contributions will help make the website a useful tool for shooters throughout the state.

# 20th Nutmeg State Games and Senior State Games

by Debbie Lyman

The NUTMEG State Games for the shooting events DO NOT conflict with the National Matches at Camp Perry or any smallbore matches for this year, so let's show them some high numbers and sign-up today to participate! Opening ceremonies details can be found on their website at [www.nutmegstategames.org](http://www.nutmegstategames.org). The Connecticut Senior Games (you must be 50 before 12/31/08) will be hosted by Trinity College, Hartford, on May 30th – June 1, and the Nutmeg States Games will be hosted by the City of Danbury on July 26–August 3, 2008. Attendance at the ceremonies IS NOT MANDATORY for competing in the shooting sports. All shooting events will be held at the Blue Trail Range in Wallingford. Dates are as follows:

**MAY 18 OR JUNE 22 – NUTMEG State Games High Power 4-Position Match**, (10 shots each in Prone, Sitting, Kneeling & Standing—same rules as Big Bore League—Check-in at Blue Trail Range at 7:30AM, Shooting commences at 8AM). Shoot your High Power Match, and your score counts for the Big Bore League Match as well as the Nutmeg State Games Match—You do have to pay BOTH the CSRRRA Big Bore League Fee and The Nutmeg State Games Entry Fee. Shoot only ONE date.

**JUNE 7 – SENIOR State Games Prone Match** (20 shots each at 50 Yards, 50 Meters and 100 Yards – Any Sights—Check-in at Blue Trail Range at 8AM, Shooting commences at 9AM).

**JUNE 26 OR 27 – NUTMEG State Games Air Rifle**, (60 shots / males; 40 shots / females; rifles available for use)

**JUNE 28 – NUTMEG State Games Smallbore Rifle 3-Position Match**, (20 shots each prone, standing, and kneeling at 50 meters—Check-in at Blue Trail Range at 8AM, Shooting commences at 9AM).

**JUNE 29 – NUTMEG State Games Smallbore Rifle Prone Match**, (20 shots each at 50 Yards, 50 Meters, & 100 Yards, Metallic Sights (except for Senior Category)—Check-in at Blue Trail Range at 8AM, Shooting commences at 9AM).

**Point of Contact:** Debbie Lyman at 30 Maple Avenue, Meriden, at 203-237-8642 after 6PM but before 9PM, e-mail [dlyman@snet.net](mailto:dlyman@snet.net) and fax is 203-269-9496. Or, visit the Nutmeg State Games website at [www.nutmegstategames.org](http://www.nutmegstategames.org)



## Constitution State Athletic Conference Tournament

The Constitution State Athletic Conference held its Ninth Annual Rifle Tournament at Quaker Hill Rod and Gun Club in Oakdale, CT the last Friday in March.

In a closely contested match Grasso Tech of Groton defeated the regular season conference champions, Vinal Tech of Middletown, by a single point-906 to 905. This was the closest margin of victory on the tournament's history.

Wilcox Tech of Meriden was third, Ellis Tech of Danielson was fourth and Abbot Tech of Danbury was fifth.

Grasso's winning team consisted of Nick Sautter, Travis Moody, Kat Mckee, Dan Harris, and Zach Smith. Sautter was recognized for having both the high average for the season and placing tenth over all in Connecticut High School Rifle League competition.

Vinal's Matt Murray was the match individual champion with a score of 191 out of 200. Murray fired a perfect score of 50 in both the prone and the sitting positions on his way to victory. Other competitors shooting perfect scores prone were Gunnar Steinle of Vinal, Peter L'Heureux, of Wilcox Tech, Grasso's Smith, and Ellis Tech's Christy LaRochelle.

Named to the All Conference Team were Sautter, Tom, Rafferty, Moody, and Smith of Grasso, Steinle, Murray, Richard Wall, Tom Tetrault, Jeremy Tetrault, and Tyler Brancifort of Vinal, as well as L'Heuteux of Wilcox.

## 2007 Scholarship Recipient



**Andrew Marzec**

Andrew Marzec received the 2007 Connecticut State Rifle and Revolver Association scholarship. Marzec shot on the Association small bore rifle team at Camp Perry, Ohio in the National Matches, the Palmyra Invitational, the NRA Spring Fling at NRA Headquarters and several other matches.

It took a lot of year-round patience, training, dedication, and hard work on Marzec's part. Locally he was a member of the Middlefield Rifle Club shooting in the Charter Oak and Nutmeg Leagues. During the summer he participated in outdoor 3-position and prone matches.

Marzec's shooting career started in his freshman year on the Vinal Tech rifle team. By his senior year he was Co-captain. Currently he is studying Criminal Justice at Tunxis Community College hoping to transfer to the John Jay College of Criminal Justice upon earning his associate's degree.

## Hap's Corner

by Hap Rocketto

### *All we need is a car clown ...*

When I was a kid the circus always came to town on a Thursday in early September and spread its huge canvas tent and midway in Caulkin's Park, which was right across the street from my classroom at Waller School. The railroad ran right by the park and the circus train would park on a convenient siding to unload. We elementary school kids were tortured by its proximity, the occasional tooting of the callopie as preparations were made for the opening performance as well as the exotic sounds and smells tantalized us almost to the bursting point. Our pubescent agitation and the commotion just a few hundred yards away drove our poor teachers to distraction as they tried to keep us focused on the educational tasks at hand. Other than snapping off the points to our pencils, the room often sounded like a bowl of Rice Krispies gone wild, so that we could go to the sharpener by the window to sneak a peek was our only other opportunity to watch the circus set up was our morning and afternoon 15 minute recess.

When the bell rang for the break we rushed to line up, two by two, to be lead by our teacher across Riverview Avenue to the park. We were sternly instructed by the principal to stay together and confine our play to the area north of the baseball diamond and not, under any circumstances wander toward the circus. Those were simpler times and we were simpler kids and we obeyed as we crowded the splintery wooden bleachers to gape and point at the elephants helping to erect the tent, the railcars full of wild animals, and the assorted roustabouts hurrying to and fro.

For weeks before the telephone poles had been plastered with posters nailed up by the circus' advancements and in these last two days before the

weekend, our badgering of our parents rose to a crescendo. Saturday morning would seem like forever because The Old Man, like most fathers in the early 50s, worked a 5 and a half day work week. After he got home from the shop and had a chance to clean up and have lunch he would give us our weekly allowance, a quarter for my older brother, 15 cents for me, and nothing for my kid sister as she was still in diapers. From this munificent sum we usually had enough to pay Scout dues and buy a comic book and candy bar. As soon as the circus' handbills went up we began to scrimp and save, picked up deposit soda bottles for refund, and scavenged through the sofa for loose change. The Old Man, a child of the Depression, encouraged our activities and always seemed to find an extra silver coin or two for us on Circus day, an event he loved as much as we did.

Hand in hand we walked down the hill, past the school, and onto the midway where we squandered our meager fortune on candy apples, popcorn, fresh roasted peanuts, and cotton candy. The Old Man always generously paid our admission so, to our mother's annoyance, we could load ourselves to the exploding point with enough sugar to rot our teeth to stumps and keep us hyperactive for a month. Hey, he was a kid once too and thought that a bellyache was both a rite of passage and a small price to pay for this rare kind of adventure.

Being young I was awed by the aerialists, terrified of the lions and tigers, and amused to no end by the clowns and in particular the act where about a zillion of them popped out of a tiny automobile.

A few weeks ago I was reminded of those golden days of my youth by a casual comment made by one of my rifle team mates, Tom McGurl. I had received a call from an old junior shooter, Dwayne Britt, who wanted to get back into the game and invited

him to the range the next week. He showed up some 20 years older and 40 pounds heavier but still enthusiastic. He had no equipment so I offered him mine and offered to get him going. We got on the line and I helped him into the gear, it was a thrill to note he couldn't button my coat. It took a bit of time but it got done.

In the meantime my brother was getting ready. Just the week before he had cataract surgery and wasn't sure he could see well enough to shoot but he was game to try. It turned out his vision was just too blurry and he popped off the line. I saw a chance to still shoot but Britt was in my gear. The prep period had just begun so I quickly had Steve and Britt both strip off their gear. Steve helped Britt into his stuff, and I was thrilled to note that Steve's coat did button up on Britt. I grabbed all of my gear and slid into it, redoing the adjustments to the butt plate and hook and finished just as the end of the prep period was called. Thirty minutes later we were done and I shot my average and Britt shot a score that was almost high enough to make the team. Not a bad performance for a guy who was using strange gear and hadn't practiced in two decades.

As we were packing up I noticed that Tom was grinning and shaking his head in wonderment as he stored his gear. "What's up, Tom" I asked.

Containing himself, rather admirably I might add, Tom said, "Hap you just had to see it. There were the three of you guys, wearing funny clothes, hopping up and down all over the place, tossing stuff left and right, and jabbering orders, requests, and pleas to each other. It was just comic. Your shooting shoes were floppy enough so that about the only other thing you needed was a big red nose, white make-up, and a clown car to make that circus act complete."

Tom's observations were spot on and struck home. I guess, like most kids, I once wanted to run away to join the circus but of course never did. In retrospect I guess that is not quite true. I actually did join one, but of a different kind, when I became a shooter.

DO YOU HAVE A STORY TO  
SHARE WITH OTHER SHOOTERS?  
E-mail it to [jelyman@mac.com](mailto:jelyman@mac.com)

### GALLERY MATCH *(Continued from page 1)*

woman honors. Castonguay and Lavoie were knotted up for fourth and fifth with 197-13 and the tie breaker went to Castonguay. New Hampshire's Larry Parker was high out of state with a 195-16 and Rocketto carded a 195-10 for senior honors.

Junior competition saw a carbon copy finish of the senior match. The Knights of the Ten Ring, Burzynski, Castonguay, Claudia Duksa, and Ryan Smith edged out Middlefield's Petrescu, Costa, Chowanec, and Remington Lyman by a single point 774-41 to 773-41. Startford PAL came in thirds when Aadit Patel, Mike Patria, Amanda Rimkunas, and Kevin Swift put up a 759-22.

Xavier High School topped the scholastic entries when Bryan Cross, Mike Dodenhoff, Alex Podgorski, and Chris Turek combined for a 755-23. North Haven High School, denied the win in category, took fourth place with a 749-23 effort by Ralph Cook, Matt Buechele, Brian Pedalino, and Eric Karasconyi. Lenny Smittner, Cody Annino, Katherine Phillips, and Mike Sestito teamed up as Blue Trail Range Silver for a fifth place finish.

The junior individual title went to Ryan Lavoie who shot a 198-13, Petrescu was high woman with a 19715. In second and third place were Castonguay and Burzynski with a 196-12 and a 195-11 respectively. It took a tie breaker to separate the fourth and fifth place finishers who both posted 194s, but Duksa has two more center shots than Patel to take fourth.

Remington Lyman, after shooting in both senior and junior matches, was slowly climbing from fourth to second to finally-first place in team matches. Along with Lenny Smittner, Erin Lee, and Rider Doolittle overwhelmed the sub-junior competition with a 793-52 as Blue Trail Gold. The silver medalists were from Middletown with Tom Manchester, Michelle Lewin, Sara Struk, and Harrison Roberts posting a 753-24. Blue Trail's Silver team of Eric Petty, Jim Stanley, Louis Pascarella, and John Yusza's shot

## Junior Air Gun Championship

*News From The National Rifle Association*

It's time to start gearing up for the 2008 NRA National Junior Air Gun Championships! This year's Air Rifle Championships will be held June 25th-29th in Des Moines, IA, while the Air Pistol Championships will be held July 16th-17th in Anniston, AL. Online registration will soon be available on the NRA Competitive Shooting Programs web page. The event will include two days of competition separated by a day of classes, an awards breakfast and the traditional Barter Bar! We are also looking forward to Pyramyd Air's return for Sponsorship. Thanks for the support, Pyramyd Air!

For more information and online registration, check out: [www.nrahq.org/compete/nm\\_jr-airgun-champ.asp](http://www.nrahq.org/compete/nm_jr-airgun-champ.asp) or contact [rifle@nrahq.org](mailto:rifle@nrahq.org).

a score of 749-19 for third. In fourth place was the Bridgeport Rifle Club's foursome of Libby Tallberg, Tarra Owen, Kyle Frawley, and Tori Keily who combined for a 746-21. Blue Trail Red closed out the team awards when Tom Landro, Charles Phillips, Chad Dieffenbach, and Tyler Lavalley teamed up to shoot a 734-16.

Just as the record had been tied in senior competition so it was in the sub-junior category when Blue Trail's Erin Lee shot a near perfect 200 with 19 center shots. Close on her heels with a 199-18 was the seemingly indefatigable Lyman. Doolittle was third with a 198-11, Smittner was fourth shooting a 196-14, just three center shots in front of fifth place finisher Frawley. Quaker Hill's Emily Britt earned high woman honors with her 196-9.

After some 7,600 rounds were fired down range, and the expended brass swept up, the match went into the history books. There were match records tied and personal bests recorded but all went away from the match knowing that they were part of the history of the longest continually contested smallbore in the nation.

PLEASE RETURN TO: CSRRRA, P.O. Box 754, North Haven, CT 06473

### CSRRRA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NEW MEMBER       RENEWAL

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

DATE OF BIRTH \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE # \_\_\_\_\_

OCCUPATION \_\_\_\_\_

- LIFE .....\$500.00
- ANNUAL (ages 21 & above) ..... 35.00
- 2 YEAR (ages 21 & above) ..... 55.00
- JUNIOR (20 & under) ..... 25.00
- CLUB ..... 20.00
- CLUB THREE YEARS ..... 50.00

**I AM INTERESTED IN:**

- SMALLBORE RIFLE       AIR GUN
- HIGH POWER RIFLE       JUNIOR ACTIVITIES
- PISTOL
- VOLUNTEER: I would be willing to \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to make a tax deductible donation to the  
 CSRRRA Scholarship Fund .....\$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 CSRRRA Junior Division .....\$ \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

## 2008 Shooting Schedule

### CSRRA HIGHPOWER SCHEDULE

The High Power Division under the leadership of Jim Castonguay announces the 2008 CSRRA High Power Schedule. All Matches will be conducted at Blue Trail Range, Wallingford, CT unless otherwise noted.

#### **April 6**

Golembeski Training Match  
(coaching is allowed)

#### **May 4**

Stewart Match

#### **June 8**

Connecticut State  
High Power Rifle Championships

#### **August 24**

Harry Anthony Match

#### **Big Bore League**

Big Bore League #1	April 20
Big Bore League #2	May 18
Big Bore League #3	June 22
Big Bore League #4	July 13
Big Bore League #5	Aug. 17
Big Bore League #6	Sept. 14
Big Bore League #7	Sept. 28

Matches held at Blue Trail Range  
Jim Castonguay (860) 738-2954  
Preregistration or written requests for  
information can be sent to  
Jim Castonguay at  
james.castonguay@snet.net

### Bell City Matches

#### **High Power League**

**Saturdays: April 12, May 10, June 14,  
July 19, August 16 and September 6**

Course of fire: 200 yard reduced 80  
shot National Match Course with two  
sighters at each stage.

### **Three CMP Approved matches**

**Saturday, June 28** (tentative)

(1) M-1 Carbine Match

**Saturday, Sept. 20**

(2) John C. Garand Match

**Sunday, October 12**

(3) Springfield/Military Bolt Rifle Match

For Bell City Matches Contact:  
James Verbickas 860-283-8396  
jverbickas@msn.com

Directions: Mount Vernon Rd., Southington,  
CT. From I-84 take exit 31, south on route  
229 to Jude Lane and Mount Vernon  
Road. Club is 1/4 mile on left/

### **ATTENTION JUNIOR SHOOTERS**

Come Join Us

**April 19, 2008 8:30am**

CSRRA High Power Clinic for Juniors

Learn firearms safety.

Hear about local and national  
highpower matches.

Fire a highpower rifle.

Watch a rapid fire demonstration.

Come, have fun

Rifles and ammo are supplied.

Juniors need to bring a parent or  
guardian over the ages of 21.

For more information call,

Brad Palmer, 860-649-4446

Randy Bieler, 203-272-1725

Held at Bell City

Southington, CT.



### **Scholarships Available**

Once again the  
State Association is  
accepting Scholarship  
Applications for high school  
graduates entering their  
Freshman year of college. All  
applicants must be individual  
members of the State Association.  
Any junior interested in applying  
can request an application form  
from Wally Lyman, 338 Williams  
Road, Wallingford, CT 06492 or  
email your request to jely-  
man@mac.com

### **Attention Life Members**

Lost, misplaced or damaged membership card? To get a replace-  
ment send Cathy Smittner, *Membership Director*, a note at:  
Connecticut State Rifle & Revolver Association  
P.O. Box 754  
North Haven, CT 06473

### **CSRRA SMALLBORE SCHEDULE**

Following matches are held at The Blue  
Trail Range. Contact Ted Lussier at 860-  
669-6513 or t.a.lussier@att.net

**May 4** – President's Match

1600 Conventional Prone

**May 31 & June 1**

Connecticut 2400 3-Position Regional

**June 14 & 15**

CT 3200 Conventional Prone Regional

**August 16 & 17**

CT State 2400 3-Pos. Championships

**September 13 & 14** – Connecticut State  
3200 Prone Championships

### BTR Matches

The following matches/leagues, please  
contact Blue Trail Range: 203-269-3280

**May 10** – John K. Lee Prone Doubles

**May 11** – John K. Lee 1600 Prone Match  
Midnight / Moonlight League

### Nutmeg State Games

(3-position, Prone, and High Power)

**See Page 5 for dates and details and  
contact information.**

### CSRRA PISTOL SCHEDULE

Please contact Joe Sugden at:

CTBullseye@Gmail.com or

203-417-2393 with questions.

**April 20, June 15, August 17, October 19**  
2700's

**May 17 & 18**

CT State Regional

**Sept 20 & 21**

Outdoor State Championships

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